

Chicago-area **charities** that may take computer equipment:

- Assistive Technology Exchange Network, a program of United Cerebral Palsy Association, Tinley Park, 708-444-2836. Takes 486s currently, but may soon only accept Pentiums and Macs. Has drop-off locations in Tinley Park, Cicero, and downtown Chicago. Computers are refurbished and then sent to schools throughout Illinois to help children with disabilities.
- Educational Assistance, Ltd., Glen Ellyn, 630-690-0010. Accepts low-end Pentiums in good working condition. Computers are distributed to colleges and universities for a small fee that goes to scholarships.
- Goodwill Industries of Southeastern Wisconsin and Metropolitan Chicago, 630-467-1353. Accepts computers with 486 and higher processors. All pieces – keyboard and monitor – should be included and the hard drive cleaned of personal information. Televisions and VCR and radios accepted in good working condition. Items are sold in Goodwill thrift stores to raise money for job training programs. All stores take donations. Call for a location near you.
- People's Computer Resource Center, Wheaton, 630-784-9372. Individuals can drop off computers, as long as the processor is a 486 or higher and it contains at least 8 megabytes of RAM and 200 megabytes of hard drive. The computers are reconditioned and used for computer literacy training.
- The Salvation Army, 888-5-PICKUP (888-574-2587). Accepts TVs in working order and working computers, but prefers Pentium or higher computers. Equipment is sold in thrift stores or used for schools affiliated with Salvation Army and other outreach programs.
- Time Dollar Cross-Age Peer Tutoring Program, Chicago, 773-233-4442. Accepts computers with a 386 or higher processor. Computers are donated for home use by Chicago public school students.

Chicago-area **recyclers** that may take computer equipment:

- Electronic Recovery, Niles, 847-583-0800. Accepts drop-offs of electronics from the public. Charges \$5 to accept a monitor or any equipment with glass.
- Maine Scrap Metal, Des Plaines, 847-824-3175. Accepts computer and VCR drop-offs for no fee.
- Oxford Metal, Chicago, 773-483-9300. Accepts drop-offs of all electronic gear except TVs from the public for no fee. Charges a small fee if businesses drop off only monitors.
- The Solid Waste Agency of Northern Cook County, in partnership with System Service International, Lombard, has sponsored electronic equipment pickup days in each of the Chicago-area counties. Check www.swancc.org for information on any pickup days that may be scheduled next year.
- United Recycling Industries, West Chicago, 630-231-6060. Has a three-day-a-week free drop-off for computers and any electronics with a computer chip such as VCRs, disc players, and televisions.